

REMARKS

Claims 1, 8, 11, 12, 15, 22, and 27 are amended.

Claims 1-29 are pending.

Objection to Claim 22

The Office Action objected to Claim 22 because of an informality identified on line 3 of the claim, wherein the term "language" was suggested as missing between "markup rendering". Claim 22 has been amended as suggested to correct this informality.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Huang et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,247,052).

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons and respectfully request that the rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Huang et al. disclose a telecommunications switch management system wherein a server is configured with an application to control a telecommunications switch. The application residing on the server is accessed from a remote computer running a browser application. The browser allows for software, for example, in the form of a Java Applet, to be downloaded from the server to the remote computer. The downloaded software is then run by the remote computer to gain access to management logic within the telecommunications switch. While gaining access to the management logic within the telecommunications switch using the downloaded software, the user of the remote computer may be required to remotely logon with the management logic by presenting a user ID and password.

1 *Huang et al.* disclose that the server may include an HTML server and that
2 the downloaded application provided to the remote computer may include a server
3 page.

4 Note that *Huang et al.* inherently require that the server, the remote
5 computer and the management logic of the telecommunications switch to be
6 running (i.e., each being properly booted and operating). This means that the
7 operating system of the remote computer needs to be loaded and running before
8 the browser application is started and communication is made with the server and
9 also later for use with the management logic of the telecommunications switch. If
10 the remote computer's operating system is configured to require a user to logon
11 before the remote computer can be used, then the user would already have been
12 logged onto the remote computer before launching the browser and connecting to
13 the server. This is how a typical computer system in *Huang et al.* would likely
14 work.

15 Notice that *Huang et al.* deal with computer operations and applications that
16 occur after a computer is running (booted up) and if required the user has logged
17 on to the computer.

18 *Huang et al.* simply teach that a browser application can be used to
19 communicate with a server and that the browser application can download a Java
20 Applet or HTML page that allows for further communication and remote logon to
21 the management logic of the telecommunications switch.

22 To the contrary, the pending claims in the present patent application deal
23 with computer operations that occur while booting a computer and prior to
24 allowing a user to logon to the computer. *Huang et al.* fail to address these initial
25 operations because their invention occurs after the server has booted, after the

1 remote computer has booted and after the management logic of the
2 telecommunications switch has booted.

3 The pending claims introduce loading of a markup language rendering
4 engine near the beginning of an operating system initialization procedure while
5 booting a computer and prior to allowing a user to logon to the computer.

6 Thus, *Huang et al.* neither disclose nor suggest the method of independent
7 **Claim 1.** The recited method is for use in a computer and includes, while booting
8 a computer and prior to allowing a user to logon to the computer, arranging for a
9 markup language rendering engine to be loaded substantially near the beginning of
10 an operating system initialization procedure. The method also includes providing
11 markup language code suitable for use with the markup language rendering engine,
12 the markup language being capable of soliciting at least one user input when
13 rendered by the markup language rendering engine, the user input being associated
14 with a user logon process configured to selectively allow a user to logon to the
15 computer.

16 For at least the reasons stated above, the method of Claim 1 is therefore
17 patentable over *Huang et al.* as are dependent **Claims 2-7**, which recite further
18 limitations.

19 Independent **Claim 8** is directed towards a computer-readable medium
20 having computer-executable instructions for causing one or more processors to
21 perform acts that include, while booting a computer and prior to allowing a user to
22 logon to the computer, arranging for a markup language rendering engine to be
23 loaded substantially near the beginning of an operating system initialization
24 procedure, and providing markup language code suitable for use with the markup
25 language rendering engine, the markup language being capable of soliciting at

1 least one user input when rendered by the markup language rendering engine, the
2 user input being associated with a user logon process configured to selectively
3 allow a user to logon to the computer.

4 *Huang et al.* clearly fail to disclose or suggest such a computer-readable
5 medium. Hence, for at least the reasons stated above, Claim 8 is therefore
6 patentable over *Huang et al.*, as are dependent **Claims 9-14**, which each recite
7 further limitations.

8 Independent Claim 15 is directed towards an arrangement including a
9 memory, a data storage device, and a display device. The arrangement includes a
10 markup language rendering engine stored within the data storage device and
11 suitable for loading in the memory substantially near the beginning of an operating
12 system initialization procedure while booting a computer and prior to allowing a
13 user to logon to the computer. The arrangement also includes markup language
14 code suitable stored in the data storage device and configurable for use with the
15 markup language rendering engine, the markup language being capable of
16 soliciting at least one user input when rendered by the markup language rendering
17 engine onto the display device, the user input being associated with a user logon
18 process configured to selectively allow a user to logon to the computer.

19 *Huang et al.* also do not disclose nor reasonably suggest such an
20 arrangement. Thus, Claim 15 is clearly patentable over *Huang et al.*, as are
21 dependent **Claims 16-21**, as they further recite additional limitations.

22 A method for use in booting a computer and logging users onto the
23 computer is recited in independent **Claim 22**. Here, the method includes, prior to
24 allowing a user to logon to a computer, loading a markup language rendering
25 engine substantially near the beginning of an operating system initialization

1 procedure, retrieving user data from the operating system, rendering markup
2 language code associated with a logon screen using at least a portion of the user
3 data, collecting at least one user input associated with the logon screen, and
4 establishing a logon session if the user input is valid.

5 *Huang et al.* clearly fail to disclose or suggest such a method. As such,
6 Claim 22 is also patentable over *Huang et al.* along with dependent **Claims 23-26**.

7 Independent **Claim 27** is directed towards a markup language based logon
8 user interface arrangement for use in logging users onto a computer. The recited
9 user interface includes a logon screen displayed while booting the computer and
10 prior to allowing a user to logon to a computer. A user logon area is included
11 within the logon screen and visually identifies a plurality of users using text
12 identifiers and graphical identifiers, such that each text identifier and graphical
13 identifier are selectable by the user through the user interface and upon selection
14 by the user cause the user interface to prompt the user to input a password. The
15 user interface further includes a single selectable shut down mechanism
16 graphically located within the logon screen and configured to shut the computer
17 down when selected through the user interface by the user.

18 *Huang et al.* fail to disclose or suggest such a user interface. As such,
19 Claim 27 is also patentable over *Huang et al.* as are dependent **Claims 28 and 29**.

20
21
22
23
24
25

1 **Conclusion**

2 The pending claims have been placed in condition for allowance and are
3 clearly patentable over the cited art and should therefore be allowed.

4

5

Respectfully Submitted,

6

7

Date: 2/26/2004

By: T. A. Jolly

8

Thomas A. Jolly
Reg. No. 39,241

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25